(b) and (c) LPG Distributor's Commission has been increased effective 1.9.1993 as per the details given below:

Slab	Ratc of Commission
0—2500 refills sales p.m.	Rs. 7.30/Cyl (14.2 Kg.)
Above 2500 refills sales per month	Rs. 6.50//Cv (14.2 Ka.)

Home delivery of LPG Cylinder has been considered as an integral part of the Distributors' function. However, consumer has been provided an option to lift the cylinder from godown/show room with a rebate of Rs. 2.50/Cyl.

Industrial pipeline Natural Gas connections to Gujarat

509. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial pipeline Natural Gas connections issued by the Gujarat Government during the last two years;

(b) the criteria adopted by Government for issuing such gas connections; and

(c) the number of applications received from the State of Gujarat for such new connections so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Six such connections were given by Gas Authority of India Limited.

(b) Allocations of natural gas are based generally on the imputed values with preference being given to the power, fertiliser and steel sectors.

(c) No new applications are being entertained as the available gas is fully allocated.

Discovery of new oil wells at Bombay High by ONGC

510. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six new oil wells have been located at the Bombay High by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the estimated reserves of these wells?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. During the current year, success in hydrocarbons exploration has been met with in six structures in Bombay Offshore basin.

(b) The data review/assessment has not been completed yet.

Pricing of Slack Wax and Paraffin Wax

511. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the slack wax which is the raw material of Small Scale Industrial Units for manufacturing Parafin Wax, has been placed under Free Trade Product, while their finished product i.e. Paraffin Wax is placed under the Administered Pricing Product;

(b) if so, whether any representation has been received from the Association of Wax Manufacturers, seeking relief on account of the above discrimination; if so, what action has been taken by Government to safeguard the interests of these SSI Units from the exploitation by the large scale sectors;

(c) whether it is a fact that taking advantagas of the above policy, the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, has increased the price of Haldia slack Wax by Rs. 800/- per Metric Ton, effective from 15.12.1994, without making any changes in the prices of Barauni Slack Wax and Paraffin Wax Type-III; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that Barauni Slack Wax, Haldia Slack Wax and Paraffin Wax Type-III are related to each other as far as pricing factor is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Slack wax being a free trade product, the oil companies are permitted to sell the product at market determined prices depending upon the quality available from individual producing refinery.

Supply of Gas to gas--based fertilizer Plants in Tripura

512. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reserves of natural gas proved in the four gas fields of Tripura;

(b) what will be the quantity of gas in MMSCMD available by 1996-97;

(c) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers had recommended for allocation of Natural Gas to two proposals from interested promoters, including KRIBHCO, for setting up fertilizer plants in Tripura; if so, whether the linkage has been given;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Gas Authority of India Limited had asked for 30 months time to make available only 0.5 MMSCMD gas to one industrial group interested in setting up a Methanol plant in Tripura, if so, the reasons for such unusually long time to supply the required gas; and

(e) what measures are being taken by ONGC/GAIL to make sufficient gas available to the entrepreneurs interested in setting up gas-based fertilizer plants in Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) The recoverable reserves as on 1/4/94 stood at 13.58 BCM.

(b) According to the 1994 profile of ONGC, upto 2.16 MMSCMD could be made available.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers had recommended allocation of natural gas to KRIBHCO. However, KRIBHCO is not presently interested in pursuing the proposal.

(d) A lead time of 30—36 months is required to set up additional production and handling facilities due to logistics constraints in the region.

(e) ONGC/GAIL take the required steps only after an allocation is made and the gas supply contract is signed by the party.